

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Fiscal Year 2006 Budget Request

Witness appearing before the
House Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations

Raynard Kington, Deputy Director
Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health

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Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

I am pleased to present the Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 President's budget request for the Office of the Director (OD). The FY 2006 budget includes, \$385,195,000, an increase of \$27,149,000 over the FY 2005 enacted level of \$358,046,000 comparable for transfers proposed in the President's request. The OD provides leadership, coordination, and guidance in the formulation of policy and procedures related to biomedical research and research training programs. The OD also is responsible for a number of special programs and for management of centralized support services to the operations of the entire NIH.

The OD guides and supports research by setting priorities; allocating funding among these priorities; developing policies based on scientific opportunities and ethical and legal considerations; maintaining peer review processes; providing oversight of grant and contract award functions and of intramural research; communicating health information to the public; facilitating the transfer of technology to the private sector; and providing fundamental management and administrative services such as budget and financial accounting, and personnel, property, and procurement management, administration of equal employment practices, and plant management services, including environmental and public safety regulations of facilities. The principal OD offices providing these activities include the Office of Extramural Research (OER), the Office of Intramural Research (OIR), and the Offices of: Science Policy; Communications and Public Liaison; Legislative Policy and Analysis; Equal Opportunity; Budget; and Management. This request contains funds to support the functions of these offices.

In addition, the OD also maintains several trans-NIH offices and programs to foster and encourage research on specific, important health needs. I will now discuss the budget request for the OD in greater detail.

NIH ROADMAP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

The NIH Roadmap for Medical Research supports trans-agency research and training programs aimed at accelerating the pace of discovery and improving the translation of research findings into health interventions. The development of new tools and technologies will help scientists understand intricate cellular processes and will make large volumes of biologic data publicly available for analysis and use in other model systems. Nanomedicine concept development awards are defining the scope of future centers to explore molecular inventions and interventions for curing disease or repairing tissues. Innovative team approaches will facilitate the creation of new biomedical and behavioral interdisciplinary fields and contribute to our understanding of complex diseases and conditions. Studies examining outcomes such as pain, fatigue and obesity will be enhanced by NIH Roadmap projects supporting the integration of behavioral and social sciences with biomedical and physical sciences. The clinical research initiatives are exploring ways to promote the integration and extension of clinical research networks, support translational research, and facilitate the coordination and harmonization of clinical research policies across federal agencies. Critical to these new efforts will be an infusion of trained scientists and clinical researchers at all stages of their careers, able to apply interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches to complex biomedical problems. And for the first time, physicians, nurses and dentists are being

trained together to become leaders in this clinical research community. These and other projects will enhance the capacity of scientists to harness the knowledge base for specific applications in all areas of investigation. The FY 2006 budget request for NIH Roadmap for Medical Research is \$83,000,000, an increase of \$23,280,000 over the FY 2005 level.

THE OFFICE OF AIDS RESEARCH

The Office of AIDS Research (OAR) plays a unique role at NIH, establishing a roadmap for the AIDS research program. OAR coordinates the scientific, budgetary, legislative, and policy elements of the NIH AIDS research program. Our response to the AIDS epidemic requires a unique and complex multi-institute, multi-disciplinary, global research program. Perhaps no other disease so thoroughly transcends every area of clinical medicine and basic scientific investigation, crossing the boundaries of the NIH Institutes and Centers. This diverse research portfolio demands an unprecedented level of scientific coordination and management of research funds to identify the highest priority areas of scientific opportunity, enhance collaboration, minimize duplication, and ensure that precious research dollars are invested effectively and efficiently, allowing NIH to pursue a united research front against the global AIDS epidemic. OAR oversees the development of the annual comprehensive NIH AIDS-related research plan and budget, based on scientific consensus about the most compelling scientific priorities and opportunities that will lead to better therapies and prevention strategies for HIV disease. The Plan serves as the framework for developing the annual AIDS research budget for each Institute and Center; for determining the use of AIDS-designated dollars; and for

tracking and monitoring those expenditures. OAR also identifies and facilitates multi-institute participation in priority areas of research and facilitates NIH involvement in international AIDS research activities. The FY 2006 budget request for OAR is \$60,899,000, which is the same as the FY 2005 level.

THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH ON WOMEN'S HEALTH

The Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH), the focal point for women's health research for the Office of the Director, strengthens, enhances and supports research related to diseases, disorders, and conditions that affect women, and sex/gender studies on differences/similarities between men and women; ensures that women are appropriately represented in biomedical and biobehavioral research studies supported by the NIH to facilitate analyses by sex/gender; and develops opportunities for the advancement of women in biomedical careers and investigators in women's health research. These ORWH efforts are in full partnership with the NIH Institutes and Centers. New research has been expanded in the ORWH-funded Specialized Centers of Research through interdisciplinary research in women's health and sex and gender factors and through the unique ORWH interdisciplinary career development program that fosters the mentored development of junior faculty and assists them in bridging advanced training towards a goal of research independence. The FY 2006 budget request is \$41,363,000, an increase of \$148,000 over the FY 2005 level.

THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES RESEARCH

The NIH has a long history of funding health-related behavioral and social sciences research, and the results of this work have contributed significantly to our understanding, treatment, and prevention of disease. The Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) furthers NIH's ability to capitalize on the scientific opportunities that exist in behavioral and social sciences research by providing leadership in identifying and implementing research programs that are likely to improve our understanding of the processes underlying health and disease and provide directions for intervention. OBSSR works to integrate a behavioral and social science approach across the programs of the NIH.

In response to a 2004 Institute of Medicine study entitled, "Improving Medical Education: Enhancing the Behavioral and Social Science Content of Medical School Curricula", OBSSR developed a program to promote the design and implementation of medical school curricula with coverage of behavioral and social sciences. This program will provide a mechanism whereby medical school students will receive training about issues such as the influence of psychological, biological, and social factors on health and disease; the role of physicians' beliefs, behaviors, and values in patient care; managing difficult physician-patient interactions; and the impact of policy on health behaviors and patient care. In addition to the benefits realized by individual physicians in training, funded medical schools may develop the infrastructures to permanently integrate behavioral and social sciences into their curricula. To continue such groundbreaking

work in the behavioral and social sciences, the FY 2006 budget request for OBSSR is \$26,185,000, an increase of \$94,000 over the FY 2005 level.

THE OFFICE OF DISEASE PREVENTION

The primary mission of the Office of Disease Prevention (ODP) is to stimulate disease prevention research across the NIH and to coordinate and collaborate on related activities with other federal agencies as well as the private sector. There are several other offices within the ODP organizational structure.

The Office of Medical Applications of Research (OMAR) has as its mission to work with NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices to assess, translate and disseminate the results of biomedical research that can be used in the delivery of important health interventions to the public. The ODP has two additional specific programs/offices that place emphasis on particular aspects of the prevention and treatment of disease the Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS) and the Office of Rare Diseases (ORD).

In FY 2006, the ODS within ODP requests a budget of \$27,078,000, an increase of \$97,000 over the FY 2005 level. ODS promotes the scientific study of the use of dietary supplements by supporting investigator-initiated research, and stimulating research through the conduct of conferences and presentations at national and international meetings. Other current ODS efforts include:

- Sponsorship of systematic review of the relationship between omega-3 fatty acids

and a number of clinical indications, particularly coronary heart disease.

- Collaborations for the development, validation, and dissemination of analytical methods and reference materials for dietary supplements.
- Support and development of databases of dietary supplement information including:
 - o National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES);
 - o Collaboration with USDA to develop an analytically-based database of dietary supplement ingredients;
 - o Plan to contract for development of a dietary supplement label database;
 - o International Bibliographic Information on Dietary Supplements (IBIDS);
 - o CARDS, a database of federally funded research on dietary supplements.
- Collaboration with other federal agencies to develop a coordinated approach to assessment of the health effects of bioactive factors in food and dietary supplements. Publishes Fact Sheets on dietary supplements for consumers.

Another component of ODP, the ORD, was formally established through the Rare Diseases Act of 2002, Public Law 107-280. The budget request for FY 2006 for ORD is \$15,649,000, an increase of \$56,000 over the FY 2005 level. The following are four highlights of ORD activities: 1) An **Extramural** Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network that involves 10 consortia, more than 70 sites, and 30 patient support organizations for almost 50 rare diseases. Thirty-three clinical protocols are under development. 2) The Rare Diseases **Intramural** Research Program is a collaborative effort between the ORD and the National Human Genome Research Institute at the NIH

Clinical Center. Recently, the program initiated annual contracts for 25 molecular **diagnostic tests** for specific rare diseases that will be made available by the contractor to the public at reasonable cost. 3) ORD also co-funds annually approximately 100 **scientific conferences** for scientific opportunities or where research is lagging or lacking. 4) The newly established **Trans-NIH Rare Diseases Research Working Group** is developing an assessment of rare diseases biospecimen collection, storage, and delivery issues, of genetic tests in **extramural** research programs, and plans for a conference on **amyloidosis**.

THE OFFICE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION

The Office of Science Education (OSE) develops science education programs to enhance efforts to attract young people to biomedical and behavioral science careers and to improve science literacy in both adults and children. The OSE creates programs to improve science education in schools (the *NIH Curriculum Supplement Series*); creates programs that stimulate interest in health and medical science careers (*LifeWorks Web site*); creates programs to advance public understanding of medical science, research, and careers; and advises NIH leadership about science education issues. Programs target diverse populations including under-served communities, women, and minorities, with a special emphasis on the teachers of students from Kindergarten through grade 12. The OSE Web site is a central source of information about available education resources and programs. <http://science.education.nih.gov>. The FY 2006 budget request for OSE is \$3,878,000, the same as the FY 2005 level.

LOAN REPAYMENT AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The NIH, through the Office of Loan Repayment and Scholarship (OLRS), administers the Loan Repayment and Undergraduate Scholarship Programs. The NIH Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs) seek to recruit and retain highly qualified physicians, dentists, and other health professionals with doctoral-level degrees to biomedical and behavioral research careers by countering the growing economic disincentives to embark on such careers, using as an incentive the repayment of educational loans. There are loan repayment programs designed to attract individuals to clinical research, pediatric research, health disparities research, and contraception and infertility research, and to attract individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds into clinical research. The AIDS, intramural Clinical, and General Research Loan Repayment Programs are designed to attract investigators and physicians to the NIH's intramural research and research training programs. The NIH Undergraduate Scholarship Program (UGSP) is a scholarship program designed to support and enhance the training of undergraduate students from disadvantaged backgrounds in biomedical research careers and employment at the NIH. The FY 2006 budget request for OLRS is \$7,213,000, the same as the FY 2005 level.

OFFICE OF PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

In FY 2006, the NIH plans to create a new office within the Office of the Director -- the Office of Portfolio Analysis and Strategic Initiatives (OPASI) -- which will provide

tools to facilitate planning for trans-NIH initiatives, including an improved process for collecting IC data on expenditures on various diseases, conditions, and research fields, and improvements in data about burden of disease. The office will also develop, with input from the ICs, common processes and formats, where necessary, for the conduct of NIH-wide planning and evaluation. For trans-NIH planning efforts, the office will seek broad public input -- from the public, health care providers, policymakers, and scientists - - in addition to soliciting advice from within NIH. The office will also coordinate and make more effective use of the NIH-wide evaluation process. The budget request for OPASI is \$2,000,000.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman for giving me the opportunity to present this statement; I will be pleased to answer questions that the Committee may have.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Raynard S. Kington, MD, PhD

Dr. Raynard S. Kington was appointed Deputy Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as of February 9, 2003. The Deputy Director, NIH, functions as the Principal Deputy Director to the Director, NIH; and shares in the overall leadership, policy direction, and coordination of NIH biomedical research and research training programs of NIH's 27 Institutes and Centers. Prior to this appointment, he had been Associate Director of NIH for Behavioral and Social Sciences Research since September, 2000. In addition to this role, from January, 2002 to November, 2002, he served as Acting Director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Prior to coming to NIH, Dr. Kington was Director of the Division of Health Examination Statistics at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). As Division Director, he also served as Director of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), one of the nation's largest studies to assess the health of the American people. Prior to coming to NCHS, he was a Senior Scientist in the Health Program at the RAND Corporation. While at RAND, Dr. Kington was a Co-Director of the Drew/RAND Center on Health and Aging, a National Institute on Aging Exploratory Minority Aging Center.

Dr. Kington attended the University of Michigan, where he received his B.S. with distinction and his M.D. He subsequently completed his residency in Internal Medicine at Michael Reese Medical Center in Chicago. He was then appointed a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania. While at the University of Pennsylvania, he completed his M.B.A. with distinction and his Ph.D. with a concentration in Health Policy and Economics at the Wharton School and was awarded a Fontaine Fellowship. He is board-certified in Internal Medicine and Public Health and Preventive Medicine.

Dr. Kington's research has focused on the role of social factors, especially socioeconomic status, as determinants of health. His current research includes studies of the health and socioeconomic status of black immigrants, differences in populations in willingness to participate in genetic research, and racial and ethnic differences in infectious disease rates. His research has included studies of the relationship between wealth and health status; the health status of U.S. Hispanic populations; the determinants of health care services utilization; the economic impact of health care expenditures among the elderly; and racial and ethnic differences in the use of long-term care.

**Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Budget**

William R. Beldon

Mr. Beldon is currently serving as Deputy Assistant Secretary, Budget in the Department of Health and Human Services. He has been a Division Director in the Budget Office for sixteen years, most recently as Director of the Division of Discretionary Programs. Mr. Beldon started in federal service as an auditor in the Health, Education and Welfare Financial Management Intern program. Over the course of more than 30 years in the Budget Office, Mr. Beldon has held Program Analyst, Branch Chief and Division Director positions. Mr. Beldon received a Bachelor's Degree in History and Political Science from Marshall University and attended the University of Pittsburgh where he studied Public Administration. He resides in Fort Washington, Maryland.